

Interactive comment on “Accuracy of altimeter data in inner and coastal seas” by Luigi Cavaleri et al.

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Received and published: 12 October 2018

The paper describes a relevant subject about the accuracy and validity of altimeter data (wind and wave) in inner seas and coastal areas.

I have the following general comments:

1) Some previous work and literature exist about the subject that the authors should consider. See for instance the following reference: ALES: A multi-mission adaptive subwaveform retracker for coastal and open ocean altimetry Marcello Passaro et al. 2014

2) A well established methodology exists for the inter comparison of several (more than two) data sources, that offers the appropriate framework to estimate the individual

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accuracies, the triple co-location method. Pls. check the following reference: Error Estimation of Buoy, Satellite, and Model Wave Height Data Peter Janssen et al. 2007

I have the following specific comments:

1) The paper mentions Table 1 (for wind) and Table 2 (for waves), summarizing the statistics. However, I can only find one table with wave statistics. Am I missing something?

2) Figures 1, 2, 3, and 9 need to be bigger. I would use the whole width page for every single panel. The reason is that these figures contain also the statistical parameters, which are illegible in the current format (size).

3) Pls. change the colour scale of Figure 7. The arrows are also not very visible. It is not informative in the present form.

4) Line 62: pls. change "extensive detailed" by something more appropriate. This statement rise a lot of expectations in regard to the amount of information, while in fact, this is a detailed analysis of some specific conditions that are probably representative for general cases but not extensive. Same in line 181.

5) Line 78: typo, "on an, although ..."

6) Line 82: Figure caption (winds) refers to Table 1, but Table 1 is about waves, according to its caption.

7) Line 107: Pls. specify if these differences are for wind or waves, it is confusing in the text.

8) Paragraph starting with line 107, and Figure 3: Triple collocation is a good framework for this analysis.

9) Line 126: typo, "Figure 4 shows"

10) Line 132: Figure 4 caption. Although indicated in the title of the figure, pls. indicate

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in the figure caption that the indicated background field is Hs.

11) Paragraph starting with line 144: Some geographical references are mentioned, which are not necessarily familiar to the reader, pls, indicate them in the figure (6).

Interactive comment on Ocean Sci. Discuss., <https://doi.org/10.5194/os-2018-81>, 2018.